

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Brazil

DATE DISTR. 22 APR 1949

SUBJECT Communist Activity in Sao Paulo

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Walter Lima,*an intelligent and active leader of the Communist Party of Brazil (PCB) attended a meeting at the home of Jose Marcelino Santos in Sao Paulo on 18 March 1949. At the meeting Lima read a Party plan which called for the overthrow of the present form of government in Brazil. He explained that the PCB would have to prepare for its objective by securing the sympathy of the people through mass meetings, debates, factory meetings, leaflets, and other propaganda. The principal themes will be opposition to syndical taxes, the security law, and persecution of Prestes; and demands for a general increase in salaries.
2. One of the PCB objectives in the State of Sao Paulo is the organization of a strike movement which will eventually spread throughout the country. Certain unidentified members of the PCB National Committee, who are experts in agitation and strikes, are in Sao Paulo assisting local leaders. Attempts to start a state-wide strike have been unsuccessful, but the following disturbances in the state are credited to the Communists:
 - a. A meeting was held on 20 March 1949 at Vila Anastacio for the purpose of forming a Peasants' Committee. Approximately 70 persons were present, and when the authorities attempted to break it up, several of the police were wounded. This is the first occurrence in recent years at which Communists were known to resist with firearms and other weapons.
 - b. On 21 March a fire broke out at the Nitro-Quimica plant in Baiquirivu and the rayon section of the plant was badly damaged. There had been a serious explosion at the plant at an earlier date. Police authorities have concluded that both of these instances were cases of Communist sabotage rather than accidents.
 - c. All stores in Andradina were closed on 22 March because of aggressive Communist agitation against the syndical tax.
3. Communists in Santos have started a campaign against Governor Adhemar de Barros and have been ordered to oppose, with violence if necessary, the hanging of posters which favor the Governor. PCB strength in the city is concentrated among the longshoremen, steredores, and sailors. Seamen arriving in the port are informed by the Communists that the Brazilian government has filled the jails with Communists, deprived the people of their liberties, and reduced the population to poverty. These persons are asked to pass the information on

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in all the other countries they visit. Communist women are detailed to visit public dance halls and to spread stories among the seamen about the anti-Communist campaign of the government. The longshoremen are believed to be in a position to initiate simultaneous strikes along the entire waterfront. Communist meetings are held at the docks, in public bars, and in the Clube da Estiva (Stevedores Club).

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Comment. *Lima has represented himself both as a member of the PCB National Committee and State Committee. A doubt exists as to whether this is his true name.

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